

CIBA - Warwick / Herff Jones Redevelopment

The former Ciba-Geigy (CIBA) facility was a chemical manufacturing plant in operation from 1930 to 1986 that generated and stored RCRA regulated hazardous wastes. The facility encompassed over 60 acres of land that straddled the Pawtuxet River in both Cranston and Warwick, RI. The facility was decommissioned in 1987.

In 1989 EPA and CIBA entered into an Administrative Order on Consent which required CIBA to begin the RCRA Corrective Action process. During site investigations two areas contaminated with PCBs, VOAs and metals above risk based levels were identified in the 25 acre Warwick parcel. To address this contamination and expedite site cleanup and redevelopment CIBA, under EPA's oversight, conducted several soil removal interim measures in 1995 and 1996. Approximately 600 cubic yards of contaminated soils were removed.

In 2001, an expedited "parceling" remedy decision was requested by CIBA, a redeveloper and the local government. When completed in the summer of 2002, it paved the way for the 25 acres on the Warwick side to be redeveloped as a jewelry manufacturing facility. The remedy decision, which provided for public review and comment, included an Environmental Land Use restriction using State authority. Ground breaking began in August of 2002 and construction was completed in 2003. The facility opened for business in the fall of 2003.

